

Message Text

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22

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 PM-04

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /043 W

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P R 240804Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL NAHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2188

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USFJ YOKOTA

USAGO MACHINATO

313TH AD/18TH TFW CG

MARCORB CAMP BUTLER

COMFLEACTS OKINAWA

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, JA

SUBJECT: US-JAPAN CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS: OKINAWA AND PANAM/TWA
ROUTE SWAP CASE

REF: A) NAHA 357 DTG 200916 JUL 76, B) NAHA 389 DTG 060707 AUG 76,

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C) NAHA 397 DTG 170221 AUG 76

1. SUMMARY. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED PROVIDE BACKGROUND AND
GUIDANCE ON RESPOND NG TO QUERIES RE US COURT DECISION RE-
QUIRING PANAM TO TERMINATE SERVICE TO NAHA ON AUGUST 30.
END SUMMARY.

2. LOCAL PANAM REP HAS ADVISED CONGEN THAT RECENT US COURT OF
APPEALS ORDER ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH PANAM/TWA ROUTE SWAP
CASE REQUIRES PANAM TO TERMINATE SERVICE TO OKINAWA AND TAIPEI
ON AUGUST 30. WE ARE TOLD THAT PANAM AND TWA HAVE ASKED COURT
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TO POSTPONE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ORDER. IF COURT DOES NOT

AGREE TO POSTPONE, LOCAL PANAM REP FEELS OPTIMISTIC THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN SOMEHOW BE MADE, FOR EXAMPLE THRU PANAM CHARTER ARRANGEMENT WITH TWA, TO MAINTAIN SERVICE TO NAHA AFTER AUGUST 30. AT SAME TIME PANAM REP HAS WARNED CONGEN AND USFORCES ON OKINAWA THAT THERE COULD BE SOME PERIOD OF DISRUPTION IN APO AND OTHER SERVICES CURRENTLY BEING RENDERED BY PANAM TO AMERICAN COMMUNITY HERE.

3. PLEASE NOTE THAT IMPENDING TERMINATION OF PANAM SERVICE TO NAHA COMES AT TIME WHEN OKINAWANS ARE SNITED IN MOUNTING

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STRONG CAMPAIGN TO PERSUADE GOJ TO AGREE TO CONTINUE EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICE TO NAHA IN UPCOMING US/JAPAN CIVIL AIR NEGOTIATIONS (REFTELS). THIS CAMPAIGN IS NOW RECEIVING MAJOR NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE ON ALMOST DAILY BASIS. THUS FAR, US COURT DECISION RE TERMINATION OF PANAM SERVICES HAS NOT RECEIVED PUBLIC ATTENTION HERE.

4. DEPT IS REQUESTED CABLE SOONEST (INFO EMBASSY TOKYO) BASIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ABOVE-MENTIONED US COURT DECISION AND STATUS OF PANAM/TWA ROUTE SWAP CASE FOR CONGEN USE IN RESPONDING TO QUERIES. THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT IS LIKELY TO CAUSE CONFUSION AND UNCERTAINTY AMONG OKINAWANS AS TO US DESIRE TO MAINTAIN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL AIR SERVICES TO NAHA FOR INDEFINITE FUTURE.

KNOWLES

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